

American Citizen Services Unit U.S. Embassy Santo Domingo Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens



TO: U.S. Citizens

FROM: American Citizens Services Unit

DATE: July 10, 2011

SUBJECT: Nationwide General Strike for Monday July 11

The U.S. Embassy is transmitting the following **Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens** to alert Americans traveling or residing in the Dominican Republic of a nationwide general strike planned for this Monday, July 11. This nationwide strike may have an adverse affect on public transportation and the general population throughout the country.

This strike is being planned by the Foro Social Alternativo (FSA). There is the possibility of disturbances and violence along major roads outside the capital. Demonstrations may take place on main thoroughfares that lead into cities such as Santo Domingo, Santiago, La Vega, Bonao, and Navarrete. In the past, areas along the roads heading east to the airport, Boca Chica and Juan Dolio, also going north towards Santiago near Villa Altagracia, have experienced incidents of rock throwing and road debris directed at private vehicles. Embassy employees have been advised not to drive outside Santo Domingo unless it is essential, and to use extra caution if travel is necessary.

Government officials have noted that the government is ready to guarantee that the strike remains peaceful. The Embassy advises travelers to exercise caution, obey local law enforcement authorities, and to avoid driving through striker roadblocks.

American citizens should stay current with media coverage of local events and be aware of their surroundings at all times.

Visit the Embassy's website http://santodomingo.usembassy.gov/ for a comprehensive posting of previous messages affecting the safety and security of U.S. citizens in the Dominican Republic.

American citizens traveling or residing overseas are encouraged to sign up for the free Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (formerly known as "Travel Registration" or "Registration with Embassies") to receive the latest travel updates and information at https://travelregistration.state.gov.

For any emergencies involving American citizens, please contact the American Citizens Services (ACS) Unit of the U.S. Embassy. The Consular Section of the Embassy is located at the corner of Cesar Nicolas Penson Street and Máximo Gómez Avenue, Santo Domingo, D.R.; telephone 809-731-4294; after hours emergency telephone 809-221-2171; ACS unit fax 809-689-6142; e-mail acssantodom@state.gov; web page www.usemb.gov.do.